This application is a continuation application of U.S. Application No. 09/453,419, which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/375,044 filed August 16, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,211,279, which in turn is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/061,871, filed April 17, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,057,387, which in turn is a Continuation-In-Part application of U.S. Application No. 08/837,493, filed April 18, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,904,762, which is incorporated in its entirety by reference herein.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at line 15 and ending at line 30 on page 13 and replace it with the following:

It is preferred that a diluent is also present in any feedstock including the silicon-containing compound. The diluent should be volatilizable and/or decomposable since it will be preferably injected into the reactor along with the silicon-containing compound. The diluent can as well also serve as a carbon black-yielding feedstock. For instance, the diluent can comprise alcohol or mixtures thereof which can serve as the carbon black-yielding feedstock as well as the diluent. The diluent is preferably capable of increasing the mass flow rate of the feedstock in which it is contained and/or is capable of lowering the temperature of the reactor at about the point of introduction of the feedstock which contains the diluent. The lower temperature assists in causing the silica domain aggregate to be finer and more numerous. The diluent can comprise a liquid and/or a gas and is preferably miscible with the silicon-containing compounds though this is not necessary. Further examples of diluents are water and aqueous based solutions. The diluent can be present in any amount and is preferably present in amounts which will increase the mass flow rate of the feedstock and/or lower the temperature of the reactor at about the point of introduction of the feedstock. The diluent can also be included in feedstocks which do not contain any silicon-containing compound, or can be introduced in a separate stage.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at line 31 of page 18 and ending at line 2 on page 19 and replace it with the following:

In general, diazonium salts are thermally unstable. They are typically prepared in a solution at low temperatures, such as 0-5°C, and used without isolation of the salt. Heating solutions of some